

Skill

- * Visualizing Settings
- * Drawing Conclusions
- * Examining Word Choice

Management Tip

To introduce this organizer, have all students use the same word list for a particular setting. Later, they can generate their own lists based on the stories they read.

Literature Link

Love, Ruby Lavender by Deborah Wiles (Gulliver Books, 2005).

Ruby learns to survive on her own in Mississippi by writing letters, making new friends, and finally coming to terms with her grandfather's death.

Setting Clues

Purpose

Students list words that describe a story's setting and then draw pictures to show how they visualize the setting.

Introducing the Activity

Ask students: *When you read a story, do you imagine how the characters or setting might look?* Explain that these images are an important part of the reading experience; authors carefully choose words to help readers visualize their stories. Students might also talk about what they visualized as they read a story and how these images matched or differed from a movie version of the story.

Using the Graphic Organizer

1. Read aloud a picture book or passage that contains descriptive words that will help students visualize the setting (don't show any pictures that accompany the passage). Ask them to try to visualize the setting as you read.
2. Distribute copies of the graphic organizer. Have students fill in the title. Then ask them to name words that describe the setting. For example, for *Love, Ruby Lavender* by Deborah Wiles, they might respond with *dirt yard*, *split-rail fence*, and *country road*. Write the words on the board and have students copy them in the box.
3. Ask students to draw a picture on the camera to show how they visualize the setting based on the word clues list.
4. Invite students to share their drawings. Point out that each person's memory and imagination is unique; although they used the same descriptive words, they most likely drew very different pictures.

Taking It Further

Instead of focusing on setting, have students listen for clues that describe a character and then draw pictures accordingly.

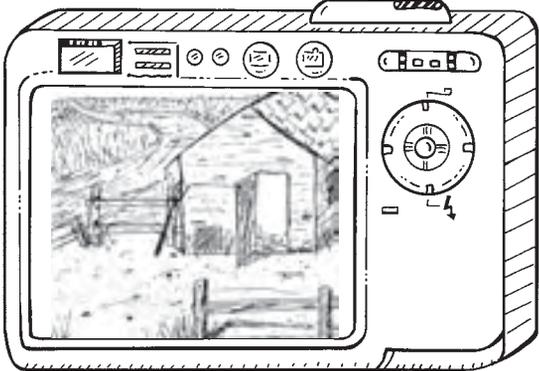
Name _____ Holly _____ Date _____ Feb. 12 _____

Setting Clues

Title: _____ Love, Ruby Lavender _____

Word Clues

dirt yard	chicken house
egg ranch	split-rail fence
dusty sea	country road
hof June sun	fields



Reading Response for Fiction: Graphic Organizers & Mini-Lessons © 2008 by Jennifer Jacobson, Scholastic Teaching Resources, page 13

Name _____

Date _____

Setting Clues

Title: _____

Word Clues

